

COMMUNITY NEWS

DRUGS (Continued from Page One)

and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

According to Chief Whitworth, three of the four suspects have prior arrests for drug related offenses. At the time of last week's arrest, he said Queen was out on bond for a manufacturing methamphetamine and possession of methamphetamine charge from two other separate arrests. Also, Hudson was on probation for two other separate arrests for possession of methamphetamine while Foley was on probation for drug charges from Covington County.

Following the arrests, the four suspects were transported to the Coffee County Jail.

While the methamphetamine

epidemic is still ongoing in Coffee County, Whitworth said he wanted to publicly commend the officers responsible for last week's arrests on a "job well done." They were Leslie Hussey of the 12th Judicial Drug Task Force, Investigator Tony Harrison, Officer Michael Adkinson and Investigator Andy Ginter.

Whitworth said his officers will continue to use every resource possible to put a stop to the illegal use and manufacture of drugs, especially methamphetamine. He asks that anyone having information concerning drug activity please contact the Elba Police Department at (334) 897-2555.

The public is cordially invited to attend a Monument Dedication in memory of

Sergeant Jason Jordan

at ten o'clock in the morning on Friday, the twenty-eighth of January Two thousand and five

Veterans Memorial Park
661 East Davis Street
Elba, Alabama

Sergeant Jordan, a Coffee County native, was killed in action in Tallifair, Iraq on July 20, 2003.

Scheduled keynote speaker is
Brigadier General Edward Sinclair
(Commanding General, United States Army Aviation Center and School, and Fort Rucker)

Model A Ford donated to help Crohn's disease patient pay bills

26 year old Shannon Britt of Smith Station, AL has Crohn's disease, an autoimmune disorder, which can be controlled somewhat but to date no permanent cure has emerged. She has battled the disease, and a multitude of related medical problems for the past ten years.

However she is now attempting to raise \$100,000 for some special, largely experimental, treatments at Northwestern Medical University, in Chicago. This treatment, which takes her stem cells from her bone marrow, clones them and reinserts them into her body, after completely killing her immune system, shows promise in early tests on other severe cases of the disease. As she is un-

able, all the money must come from private sources.

The latest innovative fund raiser is giving away a 1930 Model A Ford, all restored and in Auburn University colors. The car was donated and the money raised from the \$50,000 tickets will all go toward her treatment. Deadline for buying tickets is January 29th.

There is an internet site <shannongift.org> which explains how to get the tickets or her mother's e-mail is <friedeladove@bellsouth.net>. The mother is Frieda Britt-Horwitz.

This young lady has very close friends from the Elba area and they too would join her in thanking those who help with this endeavor.

DEATH (Continued from Page One)

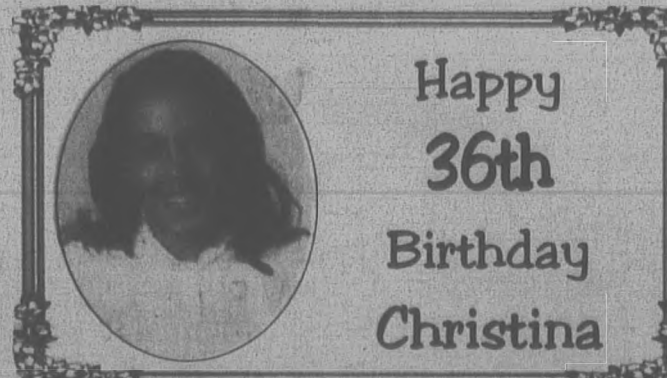
Department of Public Safety Unit K-9 searches were also conducted of the immediate area. K-9 units from Covington and Escambia County Search and Rescue units and many volunteers from the immediate and surrounding area assisted local law enforcement agencies with many hours of ground searches in efforts to find Finkley.

Volunteers from the Houston County Rescue Unit provided

divers and equipment to aid in the search.

Local law enforcement officials said they are grateful to all the volunteers who assisted in the search and recovery efforts.

While officials with the district attorney's office await the preliminary autopsy report from the Department of Forensic Sciences, authorities continue the investigation surrounding Finkley's death.



Happy 36th Birthday Christina

STREET (Continued from Page One)

when the city council officially gave him the job.

Richards said the street superintendent works closely with the city clerk, and he credits city clerk Wayne Grantham for making this job acceptable.

"The city clerk is a real great help for a street superintendent," Richards said. "If it wasn't for him (Grantham), I probably wouldn't have taken this job."

Richards currently has 13 employees working under him in the street department including two employees at the city shop. In general, he said the street department is responsible for maintaining the streets,

sewer, storm drains, bush-hogging the sides of the roads in the city limits and trash picking.

As superintendent, he delegates the work among his employees and he meets with any citizens that might have complaints.

Richards has been a resident of Elba since 1959. He is married to Patricia Richards. They have two children and two grandchildren.

Citizens needing to speak with the street superintendent can call James Richards at his office at 897-2179 or they can call Elba City Hall and send a message to him.

Coast Guard Seaman James C. Skinner graduates from recruit training center

Coast Guard Seaman James C. Skinner, son of Sandra C. and Tommy Skinner of Elba, Ala., recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J.

During the eight-week training program, Skinner completed a rigorous training curriculum consisting of academics and practical instruction on water safety and survival, military customs and courtesies, seamanship skills, first aid, fire fighting and marksmanship. A major emphasis is also placed on physical fitness, health and wellness.

Skinner and other recruits also received instruction on the Coast Guard's core values — honor, respect and devotion to duty — and how to apply them in their military performance and personal conduct. Skinner will join 36,000 other men and women who comprise Coast Guard's force.

Men and women train together from the first day in the Coast Guard just as they do aboard ships and shore units throughout the world. To reinforce the team concept, Skinner and other recruits were trained in preventing sexual harassment, drug and alcohol awareness, civil rights training, and the basics of the work-life balance, as well as total quality management.

Skinner is a 2003 graduate of Elba High School of Elba, Ala.

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EDITORIAL

Mentor Alabama - The right thing to do

Editorial by Troy Kling
Alabama's Attorney General

Con artists have no feelings for anyone but the con job they are working. Most people have heard of the various rip-offs being pulled in the name of helping the tsunami victims. Well, here is how they have adapted an old, old scam to the December disaster. We got this in an e-mail Monday morning with all its poor English and misspelled words: "My name is S..... A..... a citizen of Turkey, am soliciting on behalf of my client Dr. Yu Wang an origin of Indonesia whom was recently involved in the current Tsunami Disaster with his entire family. Before this sad event, he has executed a contract with the Federal Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development in Uganda to the tune of US\$37.5, the contract has long been approved for payment. As a result of the new Policy to settle pending contract payment. Of course it goes on wanting our bank account number, etc. to help transfer the money and promised a large share 'for our help'. As old as basic scam is, apparently it continues to draw in suckers who give out personal bank account numbers and ultimately find all their money withdrawn.

Believe it or not the levee contractors have finally started the long promised modification work on the Troy Highway at the levee crossing. The signs read that the road will be closed until late February but some of the workers think that if the weather cooperates it will reopen much sooner.

There is a very unusual lawsuit that has been filed in Albany, NY. A lady (state employee) is reportedly suing because she doesn't have any work to do. The woman tells of spending the business hours on her \$100,000 a year (including benefits) job reading newspapers and working crossword puzzles. She has reportedly been a state employee for 24 years and hasn't had any work since the year 2000. This woman doesn't like that, nor should the taxpayers of New York State. She thinks she may have offended supervisors when she questioned bosses about other workers attending the governor's annual prayer breakfast (apparently during working hours).

Industrial recruitment has become very competitive all across America. Tax incentives are one of the main drawing cards states and communities use in this effort. However that may be coming to a screeching halt in the near future. An Ohio court has just declared these generous incentive packages . . . "Illegal". Of course right now it just affects Ohio, but if the case gets to the U. S. Supreme Court as promised and is upheld, there will be a lot of what many call "industry buying" that suddenly stops. Recruiters in both Alabama and Florida, Georgia and Mississippi have been successfully fine-tuning that incentive method in recent years. We wonder what would happen in cases in which the tax incentive was given years ago and the industry has already built and is using their new facility?

Our early January weather has been replaced, and replaced with a vengeance! Earlier this week we had some of the coldest weather the South has experienced this winter. However it is bouncing back, but that yoyo effect is what many doctors credit for our winter viral infections. We adjust to the warm weather and it suddenly turns cold and before we know it, the old bug has hit us. Actually, it may play a part, but we suspect the fact people are in closed buildings with less fresh air and the bugs just circulate around and around until they find a way into someone's mouth, nose, etc.

On both the state and national level lawmakers are jumping on the idea of raising the benefits of military folks, mainly those in combat zones. Nationally bills have been introduced in both the House and the Senate to increase the life insurance benefits for these folks. It isn't often something comes along that both the Republicans and the Democrats clamor to claim as "their deed" but this happens to be one of them. It isn't a bad idea (we can't do too much for those who defend our cherished freedoms with their very lives) and it would cost enough to completely wreck the federal budget. Hopefully every American soldier headed to the war zone has listened to good advice and already purchased additional life insurance to protect his or her family in case the worst of the worst happens. However, we have read some stories which would have readers believe that without this personally purchasing of insurance surviving family members are left on welfare, which isn't true. In addition to any already existing life insurance, there are lifetime benefits for surviving wives (until they remarry) and any minor children get a monthly check until they become of age. As we have noted before on other issues, the idea is good on real merits without salting the build-up with half truths and misleading statements.

Elba officials and other members of the Economic Development Corporation entertained another group of industrial prospects one day recently. While they know the importance of continuing to put Elba's best foot forward to these prospects, you will not see the uncontrolled excitement that was exhibited at the first dozen or so prospect visits immediately after the initial announcement of the new Hyundai plant at Montgomery.

VISIT THE ELBA CITY LIBRARY
During February
to View Oil Paintings
on Exhibit By Elba Artists
Painting Instructor
Linda Rawls

The Elba Clipper
USPS 171-860
is published every Thursday by The Elba Clipper,
417 W. Buford St., Elba, Alabama 36323
Publication Postage paid at Elba, Alabama 36323

Postmaster: Send Address Changes To:
The Elba Clipper, P.O. Box 477, Elba, AL 36323-0477
Copyright - all Rights Reserved
TELEPHONE (334) 897-2823 or fax (334) 897-3434
Toll Free 1-888-216-8050 • e-mail: clipper@alaweb.com

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year
6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 months - \$11
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

As Alabama's chief law enforcement officer and the father of three young children, I am very much aware of, and concerned about, juvenile crime in Alabama. There are a many reasons and circumstances that lead our young people to choose to commit criminal acts. It is a problem that has been discussed, studied and debated, but not solved. The solution, like the problem, is complex. Whatever the solution, and important element is the presence of a positive role model. Too many of our youth are tempted and pressured to make the wrong choices to become involved in crime and, too often, no one is there to help them resist. Many of these at-risk young people are exposed, on a daily basis, to illegal drugs, alcohol, theft, gang activity, and more. Many of them later say that they had come to believe these were their only choices.

MENTOR ALABAMA is an initiative of my office that recruits mentors to serve as tutors and role models, as friends to our young people who provide them with consistent, positive support to discourage them from the wrong choices that will rob them of their youth and destroy their future and to redirect them in positive directions.

According to the *National Mentoring Partnership*, mentored teens are 46 percent less likely to become involved with drugs, 27 percent less likely to begin using alcohol, 37 percent less likely to skip class, and 52 percent less likely to skip school. Moreover, they have greater confidence in their academic performance and are able to get along better with their families. These statistics alone make mentoring worthwhile. They tell us that without a positive influence that a mentor can provide, many young people will become statistics in a juvenile crime database and/or an occupant in a corrections facility.

I urge you individually and as groups to join us in taking action. Call us toll-free on the MENTOR ALABAMA CRISIS line at 1-888-356-2400, log on to our website at www.ago.state.al.us or write us at Office of the Attorney General, 11 South Union Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama, 36130. It's the right thing to do.

On the Web - IRS, <http://www.irs.gov> Alabama Dept. of Revenue: <http://www.ador.state.al.us/>

Alabamians are ahead of the national trend when it comes to e-filing tax returns. While the Internal Revenue Service is projecting that this year, for the first time ever, more than half of all tax filers nationwide will e-file their returns, nearly 66 percent of Alabama filers are expected to e-file - many online, for free.

In 2003, more than 914,000 tax returns were e-filed by Alabamians. That's about 49 percent of the returns filed that year. In 2004, the number rose to 51 percent (more than 1 million returns). For 2005, the IRS projects that 1.25 million returns - 66 percent - will be e-filed.

According to IRS spokesman Dan Boone, there are good reasons why so many Alabamians have traded a pencil for a computer mouse when it comes to doing their taxes, including the fact that e-filers can prepare and file both federal and state tax returns at the same time.

"People who try e-filing usually never go back to doing paper returns," Boone said. "It's fast, easy and safe, plus you know your return got there and is likely to be error-free. And free online filing is available for both state and federal returns."

How fast is e-file? Filers who combine e-file with direct deposit usually have their refunds in two weeks or less. "I've even seen e-file refunds deposited in just 8 days," said Boone.

And why do e-filed returns have fewer errors? "The computer software leads you step-by-step and does all the math for you," he said. "E-filed returns have an error rate of less than half of one percent, while up to 20 percent of paper returns have mistakes."

E-filers have a choice of filing online from their own computers through the IRS Free File

program or the Alabama Free File Alliance, which both offer free e-filing through participating companies' Web sites, or by purchasing and using tax software. The IRS projects that more than 233,000 Alabamians will file online from their own computers in 2005.

Taxpayers can also e-file through most tax preparers and many volunteer-staffed sites statewide that offer free tax preparation to low-income, elderly, or disabled filers.

Find out more by visiting IRS.gov or by calling the IRS toll-free at 1-800-829-1040.

On the Web - IRS, <http://www.irs.gov> Alabama Dept. of Revenue: <http://www.ador.state.al.us/>

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Jan. 17, 2005, investigated the following incidents: two for burglary, two for theft of property, one possession of marijuana, one suspicious purchase, one lost property, one hit and run, one recovered property, one breaking and entering of a motor vehicle and one criminal trespassing.

The following arrests were made: two for failure to appear, one for possession of marijuana and one for burglary.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: two for no insurance, one for driver's license, five for speeding, three for driving with a suspended driver's license and one for not wearing a seat belt.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows: MONDAY, JAN. 17 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 261 County Rd. 113 (12:09 p.m.). Elba Fire Department dispatched to the Elba General Hospital to clear a landing strip for Airheart (3:10 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JAN. 18 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 715 W. Davis St. (2:00 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 19 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 709 Roosevelt Dr. (4:44 p.m.).

THURSDAY, JAN. 20 - River stage 8:57 feet (6:57 a.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to 113 County Rd. 367 (4:12 p.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to 3541 County Rd. 215 (5:51 p.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to 202 County Rd. 242 (6:54 p.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to the county stockyard (8:16 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JAN. 21 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 691 Williams (6:46 a.m.). River stage 8:17 feet (7:00 a.m.). Burglary reported at 15138 Hwy. 87 S. (1:33 p.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to 4145 County Rd. 415 (2:02 p.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to 997 Winston Ave. (8:44 p.m.).

SATURDAY, JAN. 22 - Elba Fire Department dispatched to Herman Driggers Dr. (7:04 a.m.). River stage - 7.97 feet (7:04 a.m.).

SUNDAY, JAN. 23 - Burglary (not in progress) reported at 21120 Hwy. 87 N. (11:46 a.m.). Disturbance (noise) reported on Jackson Ave. (4:02 p.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to 99 County Rd. 432 (5:28 p.m.).

CALL CRIMESTOPPERS @ 897-3881 TO REPORT A CRIME REMAIN ANONYMOUS

The public is cordially invited to attend a Monument Dedication in memory of

Sergeant Jason Jordan

at ten o'clock in the morning on Friday, the twenty-eighth of January Two thousand and five

Veterans Memorial Park 661 East Davis Street Elba, Alabama

Sergeant Jordan, a Coffee County native, was killed in action in Tallifur, Iraq on July 20, 2003.

Scheduled keynote speaker is Brigadier General Edward Sinclair (Commanding General, United States Army Aviation Center and School, and Fort Rucker)

Cook Chevrolet

897-2297 • 610 N. Troy Highway • Elba, AL

Elba General Hospital has limited supply of flu vaccine

Elba General Hospital currently has a limited supply of flu vaccine available to all persons over the age of 18 who wish to receive the vaccine. The hospital will administer flu vaccines Monday - Thursday from 8 AM - 5 PM. Those wishing to receive a vaccine should register at the switchboard located inside the Emergency entrance. Insurance will be filed for Medicare participants. All others should be prepared to pay a \$20 administration fee. Please wear clothing that makes the upper arm easily accessible, short sleeve or sleeveless attire is best. Those persons allergic to hen eggs should not receive the vaccine.

Flu Vaccine is also available in the offices of Dr. Dyess, Dr. Roberts, and Dr. Cochran. Please contact their offices for administration times, age and insurance guidelines.

Club Yesepoch to host annual Black History Banquet Feb. 5

The Reverend R. L. Shanklin, President of the Alabama State Conference of Branches of the NAACP will be the guest speaker for the 7th Community-Wide Black History Banquet.

The national theme, "The 100th Anniversary of the Niagara Movement," has been issued by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) for Black History month 2005.

Reverend Shanklin will headline the program at this year's banquet. He is a dynamic speaker, an outstanding community leader, and highly respected social and political activist. He has a strong voice in the struggle for human rights and is a servant of the gospel. Reverend Shanklin received the Presidential Award from President Gerald Ford.

The banquet will be held Saturday, February 5, 2005 in the Multi-Purpose Room on the campus of Enterprise-Ozark Community College at 6 p.m. Tickets are on sale at a cost of \$10.00. For more information call 347-2623, ext. 2234.

News from EOCC... Enterprise-Ozark Community College's Computers Made Easy 3*Basic Web Design. Just for the NewBel, will guide step-by-step on how to design, create, and publish a web site. You will learn how to publish your website, register, and host a domain name. When finished with the course, you will be able to design and create a simple web-site that links to the World Wide Web. You should have basic knowledge of the computer and have completed Computers Made Easy Levels 1 and 2. There is a \$45 fee for this course, and the registration deadline is Feb. 8. Class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, Feb. 15-24, 5:30-7:30 p.m. For more information call 347-2623, ext. 2234.

FOCUS ON FACTS

"Through our pain we will make them see their injustice" Mohandas Gandhi

Mahandas turned sixty in 1930. Born in a small village in India on October 2, 1869, he left his home, his wife, and his son to attend law school in Britain when he was eighteen. He graduated three years later and, rather than staying in Britain, returned to India two days after being called to the bar.

An unpretentious student in his law classes and teachers remembered him as being extremely shy, quiet, and unassuming. After returning to India, he established a law practice that ended with his first case. Too shy to question the first witness he faced in court, he refunded his client's fee and closed his office.

As a result, the young lawyer left India in 1893. His first exposure to South African racism came shortly after he arrived. While traveling on a train from Durban to Pretoria the conductor told him to leave his first class compartment, which he had paid for, as a white person wanted to use it. Stunned, Mahandas refused. So the conductor had him removed from the train, leaving him at a rural station in the middle of the night.

That experience began a personal journey that extended his stay in South Africa until 1914. While there, he founded a non-violent movement that pressured the government to extend equal rights to non-whites. During his time in South Africa, he evolved from a shy, reserved lawyer whose specialty was preparing legal briefs to a deeply religious man who believed that discrimination had no place in the world.

When he returned to India, people no longer referred to him by his given name, Mahandas. Rather, his efforts on behalf of the poor and disadvantaged had led people to refer to him as the Mahatma, a term that means "great soul."

After his return, Mahatma Gandhi used the same tactics of civil disobedience and non-violence that he had learned in South Africa to bring the British Empire to its knees.

His unwavering devotion to treating all people fairly and with dignity and respect resonated with the Indian people. His insistence that no matter what the authorities did, neither he nor his followers would use violence was a tactic the British had never seen.

Ultimately British frustration became so great that they granted India its independence.

A fanatic murdered Mahatma Gandhi on January 30, 1948. Four months later, Martin Luther King graduated from Morehouse College in Atlanta, and decided to enter the ministry. While studying at Crozer Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, he attended a lecture about Mahatma Gandhi. Intrigued by what he heard, King studied Gandhi and his methods, which he then adopted as the foundation of the American Civil Rights movement. Find out more about Mahatma Gandhi and his legacy.

Take the Web Journey. Next Week: The invention of the Millennium

THE WEB JOURNEY

Gandhi Museum Located in Mumbai, India, the museum was formerly a private dwelling where Gandhi stayed when visiting the city. Their online resource includes a biography, essays, and memorabilia from his life.

Mahatma Gandhi E-Archive and Reference Library Developed by the Mahatma Gandhi Foundation, this resource includes biographical information, photographs, a timeline, digitized versions of books by and about Gandhi, and audio clips of his speeches.

A Force More Powerful This resource is the online companion to a PBS television series that chronicles a century of non-violent conflict. The campaigns chronicled include a 1930 march led by Gandhi to protest a British tax on salt. It includes overviews of the documentaries, classroom resources, and more.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/3tj4s> Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/3rp4u> Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/6c4e4>

We thank our partners for their commitment to our community, our schools, and our young people. Together, we ensure teachers and students receive all learning materials at no cost to them. E-mail your questions or comments to editor@elbaclipper.com

Elba Clipper in Education

Touchstone Energy

CITY OF ELBA

Obituaries

MAGGIE RUTH BOUTWELL

Mrs. Maggie Ruth Boutwell, age 84, of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, Jan. 16, 2005 at her residence in Elba.

Funeral services were held Jan. 19, 2005 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Bobby Holladay and Rev. Nathan Carroll officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery, Elba, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

The Boutwell family requests donations be made to: Westside Baptist Church Building Fund, 1026 Caroline, Elba, AL 36323 or Wiregrass Hospice Enterprise, 557 Glover Avenue, Enterprise, AL 36030.

Survivors include three daughters: Patsy B. (Charles R.) Matthews and Ann B. (Rick) Holley, both of Elba, Yvonne B. (Jerry) Hughes, Chancellor, Ala.; three sons: Rex (Betty Sue) Boutwell and Roy Dan (Jennice) Boutwell, both of Elba, Virgil Rudolph (Edna) Boutwell, Goshen, Ala.; two sisters: Ellen Thomas, Winter Haven, Fla., Mahlon Counts, Panama City, Fla.; two brothers: Gerald Moore, Pace, Fla., Macon Moore, Selma, Ala.; 17 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

The following notice of a death came to The Elba Clipper via e-mail on Monday. There is little detail in the message and it came through a mutual friend, thus the best way to pass on this

Pre-need funeral planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home for details Call 897-2225

EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Card of Thanks

A simple thank you doesn't seem adequate to say what our family feels in our hearts to all those that called, visited, brought food, sent flowers and prayed for us during this difficult time in our lives.

To the Wiregrass Hospice and volunteers that came by and sat with us to comfort us. This is a wonderful service provided by those that are willing to give of themselves not expecting anything in return.

Even though our Mother is not with us physically she is with us in our hearts and she would want to say thank you for all the kindness that you have shown her through her journey on this earth.

From the Family of Ruth Boutwell

IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK!

This distinguished group of six gentlemen first met in the Royal Exchange Building in New York City on February 1, 1790. Led by John Jay, they had been selected by President George Washington as the final court of appeal for all legal cases within the United States. What is the name of the body to which the six gentlemen had been appointed? Do you need to find the answer, or want to get more information?

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/65nbc>

ALABAMA FAST FACT

During and shortly after World War I, half a million African Americans migrated from the southern states to the north. The primary reason for this was the greater economic opportunity available in large industrialized cities. The Chicago Defender, a black newspaper, received many letters from southerners looking for help moving themselves and their families. Read a selection of them, and learn more about the South during the early twentieth century.

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/3p3ug>

Touchstone Energy

CITY OF ELBA

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CHURCH NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. W.K. ELLISON

HARRIS TEMPLE COGIC

The battle for our children

One of the most desperate spiritual battles of the 21st century will be for the hearts of our children. This battle has been raging throughout the 20th century and is actually going to intensify. If we do not gird ourselves for this increasing contest for the hearts and minds of our children, we will begin to lose our children to the enemy on an unprecedented level. We cannot be content to just hold our ground; we must aggressively go for a breakthrough. The enemy is seducing our children with a counterfeit for the true desire of their hearts: a genuine relationship with the powerful, wise God who loves them.

With the intensity of the battle increasing, our children will not be kept in the fold by just a good youth program. Nor will good sermons or good Sunday school lessons satisfy them. God, who is Spirit, created humans to hunger for a relationship with the supernatural, and this hunger is acutely felt during adolescence. If adolescents are denied a relationship with the supernatural power of God, they will be extremely vulnerable to experimentation with evil, supernatural powers.

In the battle for the hearts of our children, the enemy is not going to play fair; he is going to employ the most horrible and cruel means available to him. He is already circulating books, movies, television programs, and music of such demonic power that an unprotected soul will be subject to spiritual oppression or possession. If the church does not wake up in this area, there is going to be an astonishing increase of violence committed by children against their parents or other children.

Parents who fail to discipline their children according to biblical mandates will find themselves being disciplined by their children. Those who fail to monitor and control the books their children read, the music they listen to, or the movies and television programs their children watch, will soon see forces of evil arising in their children of the most extreme.

Now is the time to pray as never before for all Christian parents, Christian youth workers, and children's book authors. (We need also to pray for all teachers, principals, and school boards.) The church must start to recognize that its children's and youth ministries are as important as any other ministry in the church. Children's and youth ministers are not called to be baby-sitters, but equippers of a generation that has been destined from the foundation of the world to stand and confront the enemy in the world's darkest hour. The Lord will greatly bless, prosper, and anoint congregations who devote their resources to their children's and youth ministries. *Source: A Prophetic Vision For the 21st Century by Rick Joyner*

The Wilkerson Family to be in concert at Basin Baptist Church

Basin Baptist Church will host The Wilkerson Family from Troy on Sunday night, January 30th at 5:30 p.m. The Wilkersons will be sharing testimonies and presenting a pro-

gram of Bluegrass music. Everyone is invited to attend. Basin is located about 5 miles south of Elba on Highway 189. Nathan Carroll is pastor.

"Spread the Love in Sunday School" Contest planned at El Bethel

During the month of February El Bethel Assembly of God will be having a "Spread the Love in Sunday School" visitor contest. Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. and you are welcome to

attend. All visitors will receive a small gift from the Sunday School Department. If you have any questions you may contact Rebecca Creel at 393-5487.

Gospel Singing to be held at Elba Church of God of Prophecy

A Gospel Sing featuring the New Covenant Singers of Samson, Ala. will be held at Elba Church of God of Prophecy. This event will be held January 30, 2005 at 5 p.m. Finger foods will be served afterwards.

Mt. Zion Baptist Church to host Gospel Singing January 30th

Mt. Zion Baptist Church will hold a Gospel Singing Sunday, January 30 at 5:00 p.m. The featured singing group will be the Monticello Blue Grass Gospel Singers.

South Alabama Conference Lay Organization to meet

The Quarterly Meeting of the South Alabama Conference Lay Organization will be held on Sunday, January 30 at 3:00 p.m. at Greater Bethel, Brundidge. This body represents over 50 Wiregrass A.M.E. Churches and focuses on training lay members to be more productive Christian workers in the A.M.E. Church. For more information, please contact Conference President, Franklin Simmons, at 393-3827.

An International Missions Convention to be held at El Bethel Assembly of God

An International Missions Convention is being held at El Bethel Assembly of God February 5th and 6th. On the 5th starting at 6 p.m. there will be a banquet with food being cooked by the church using recipes from various different countries. On the 6th at 6 p.m. we will be ministered to by Rev. Vernon Davis. Rev. Davis is a retired missionary who spent 30 years in India teaching the Word of God. If you have any questions you may contact Rev. Michael Taylor at 894-2268.



ROUND & ABOUT

WITH ERIA

897-2006

SCRIPTURE: HEBREWS 10:1-22

THINKING OF YOU, PRAYING FOR YOU:

Mary Scott Burville Jones
Carolyn Lawrence
Pamela Edwards
Lizzie Tyson
Rev. J.L. Grayer
Catherine Waters
Cleven Williams
Mary E. Holley
Bettye Newton

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Faye Manning-January 22
Dimitri (Shookie) Crittenden-January 26
Tia Sherrie Kelley-January 27
Larry Folmar-January 27
Louella J. Folmar-January 29

THE MULBERRY MISSIONARY BAPTIST DISTRICT MINISTERS, DEACONS & LAYMANS

UNION will convene with the Antioch MB Church in Andalusia, Alabama (Rose Hill), Sunday, January 20, 2005 at 9:45 A.M. Rev. Gary Barnes is the pastor and Rev. J.M. Bryant is the president.

LITTLE BAPTIST HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

In Rutledge will celebrate Family and Friends Day, February 13 at 3:00 p.m. Rev. Clements is the pastor. The guest speaker will be Rev. A.R. Williams from Rocky Head MB Church-Elba. Shiloh MB Church in Brundidge will be running song in the history of Dallas, Texas.

El Bethel Assembly of God to begin an Adult Bible study

Starting January 26th at 7 p.m., El Bethel Assembly of God's adult bible study group will begin on the Purpose Driven Life. This will continue every Wednesday night till it is completed. The book may be purchased at most local stores where Christian books are sold. Everyone is invited to attend. El Bethel is located off of 167 N. Hwy 51 approximately 5.8 miles going towards Arion. If you have any questions you may contact Rev. Michael Taylor at 894-2268.

THIRD AUXILIARY WEEK CELEBRATION & 109th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

to be held at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in the Tazantum Community, Brundidge, Alabama, from February 14-19, nightly at 7:00 (except Sat). The church anniversary program will be at

El Bethel to host 5th Sunday Night Sing

El Bethel will be hosting a 5th Sunday Sing January 31st along with New Tabernacle Church and the Old Tabernacle United Methodist Church. We invite you to come out for this special time of singing that begins at 6 p.m.

Cotton Patch Gospel Bluegrass musical coming to Troy

Bible stories with a southern drawl. That's what audiences will see when the Troy Arts Council presents Cotton Patch Gospel at Troy University's Claudia Crosby Theater Feb. 8. Called by its creators, "the greatest story ever re-told," Cotton Patch Gospel is a moving, exuberant bluegrass musical that tells the story of the life of Jesus - but set in modern-day rural Georgia. It's produced by Springer Opera House, the official State Theatre of Georgia.

"People will enjoy it if they come," said Troy Arts Council President Don Crapps. "It's serious but funny and we need some fun in our lives."

The musical was adapted by Atlanta actor Tom Key from the Rev. Clarence Jordan's book The Cotton Patch Version of Matthew. A farmer, civil rights leader, Bible scholar and seminary professor, Jordan founded Koinonia Farm in the 1950s, an interfaith farming community near Americus, Ga., which spawned numerous other ministries including Habitat for Humanity. With songs by the late Harry Chapin (who wrote Cats in the Hat), the musical ran off-Broadway in 1983 before setting off on a four-year U.S. tour and was the longest running show in the history of Dallas, Texas.

"This show is a true Southern treasure," said Springer Artistic Director Paul R. Pierce. "This show captures so much of what the South is all about - not just the 'southern-fried' qualities but the personal values and humor, too. It also recognizes the South has urban qualities. Folks all over the South are loving this show."

The tickets for the Feb. 8 performance are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, and may be purchased at most local stores where Christian books are sold. Everyone is invited to attend. El Bethel is located off of 167 N. Hwy 51 approximately 5.8 miles going towards Arion. If you have any questions you may contact Rev. Michael Taylor at 894-2268.

LIFESTYLES

Tri-County "Valentine Sweetheart" Pageant planned for February 12

The 2005 Tri-County "Valentine Sweetheart Pageant" will be held Saturday, February 12, 2005 at Elba High School at 6 p.m. The pageant is sponsored by the members of the Elba Masonic Lodge #170.

The entry fee is set at \$30. The age divisions are: Baby Miss 0-11 months, Tiny Miss 1-2 years, Tot Miss 3-5 years, Little Miss 6-8 years, Mini Miss 9-11 years, Junior Miss 12-14, and Miss Tri-County 15-18 years.

A winner and two alternates will be selected in each age division (minimum of five contestants required). Winners will receive a trophy, crown, banner, flowers, and \$100 savings bond. Alternates will receive a trophy and flowers. All contestants will

receive a trophy. Practice will be held on Friday, February 11, 2005 with Baby and Tiny Miss contestants to practice at 6 p.m., Tot and Little Miss at 6:45 p.m., and Mini, Junior, and Miss contestants to practice at 7:45 p.m. Practice will be held at the Elba High School. Please come 30 minutes early for registration.

Contestants will be judged on beauty, poise, and overall projection by a staff of three judges. Baby Miss and Tiny Miss contestants will be judged on beauty and overall projection, ONLY.

To obtain entry form or for any questions contact: Starla Amison at 897-8301 (after 4 p.m.), Herb Winters at 897-3095, or Scott Cole at 897-5898.



Cody Daniels

Cody Daniels celebrates 8th birthday with skating party

Cody LaDon Daniels celebrated his 8th birthday on January 8, 2005 with a skating party at the Elba Skating Rink. Approximately 50 of Cody's friends and family enjoyed the party given by Cody's Dad, Tim Daniels, his Mom, Sherry Daniels and grandparents Lloyd and Elia Daniels. He is also the grandson of the late Jackie Parker and Mozelle Parker.

NEW ARRIVAL

ANNA CLAIRE PATEL

Mitzi and Michael Patel of Kinston announce the birth of their daughter, Anna Claire Patel.

She was born Jan. 18, 2005, at Mizell Memorial Hospital in Opp. She weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long.

Maternal grandparents are Charles and Dianne Deal. Paternal grandparents are Tai and Linda Patel.

New Kids and Kin program available

Do you provide child care for a grandchild, niece, nephew or sibling? Have you heard about the Kids and Kin Program? Through Kids and Kin, you can have the opportunity to earn up to \$175 worth of toys, equipment, or supplies for the children you keep. There is no cost to participate in Kids and Kin. If you keep a relative's child, please call Jessica Zimmermann at (334) 806-6666 or call (800) 499-6597, ext. 221.

Miss Mitchell & Mr. Salter to wed February 26th

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth J. Mitchell of Brantley, Ala. announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Coco Michelle to Brian Lee Salter, Brian is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Salter of Milton, Florida. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mrs. Patricia Adams Morris and the late Chester Glen Morris, and Mrs. Christine Mitchell and the late Emmett Ray Mitchell all of Brantley, Ala. She is a 2002 graduate of Brantley High School and is

presently enrolled at Wallace College in Dothan, Ala., where she will graduate in May with a physical therapist assistant degree.

The groom-to-be is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Hawkins and Mrs. Dorothy Cargle of Milton, Fla. He is a graduate of Central High School in Munsion, Fla. and Auburn University, where he received a B.S. degree in electrical engineering. He is employed in Andalusia, Ala.

All friends and family are invited to attend the wedding to be held on February 26, at 3:00 p.m. at Brantley Baptist Church in Brantley, Ala.



Emmarie Aleese Collins

Emmarie Aleese Collins celebrates first birthday

Emmarie Aleese Collins turned one on January 24, 2005. She is the daughter of Sean and Kimberly Collins of New Brockton. Emmarie is the granddaughter of Walter (Bruiser) and Alice Pilcher of New Brockton and the late Nancy Phillips of Enterprise and Michael R. Collins of Destin, Fla.

She is the great-granddaughter of Flary and Frances Goodyear of Enterprise and Gene and Geraldine Phillips of New Brockton and the late Walt and Robbie Pilcher of New Brockton. Emmarie has one older brother Bo who is nine years old.

NEW ARRIVAL

MICHAEL ANDREW JOHNSON

Jay and Christy Johnson of Montgomery announce the birth of their son, Michael Andrew Johnson. Michael was born on December 27, 2004 at Baptist East Medical Center. Michael was welcomed home by his sisters, Caroline and Elizabeth, ages 4 and 2. At birth, he weighed 11 pounds and 1 ounce, and was 23 1/2 inches long. Michael's grandparents are Carol Smith and the late Eyan Smith and Harold and Faye Johnson, all of Elba. His great-grandmother is Elma Morrow, also of Elba.



Braxton Robinson

Mrs. & Mrs. Oren Oglesby celebrate 50th wedding anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Oren Oglesby of Glenwood celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on December 11, 2004, where then and there they renewed their wedding vows, by the Rev. W.O. Sanders of Goshen.

Mr. Oglesby retired from Dorsey Trailers in 1996 after 29 years of service. Mrs. Oglesby retired as an LPN from Elba Nursing Home after 21 years.

The couple has five children, Anida (Wayne) Stubbs of Troy, Susan (Dean) Hall of Smith

Station, Cynthia (Johnny) Hammett of Crawford, Pamela (Danny) Allen of Columbus, Ga., and Master Sgt. Oren Stacey (Dawn) Oglesby of Prattville. They also have eleven grandchildren, four step grandchildren, and four step great grandchildren.

The couple's five children surprised their parents with a celebration at Riverview Baptist Church fellowship hall in Troy. More than 125 guests attended the special event.

Braxton Robinson is six years old

Braxton Robinson turned 6 years old on January 14, 2005. Braxton celebrated his birthday on January 15 with a party at The Playground in Dothan, Ala. He had a great time with friends and family. Braxton is the son of Bill and Ronda Robinson. His grandparents are Ben and Peggy Carpenter and Bill and Odessa Robinson, all of Elba.

Church Directory

Church Directory

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN

ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH
SAMSON, ALA.
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Night Service: 7:00 p.m.

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH
 Nathan Carroll - Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.

BETHLEH AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 Elder Phillips-Copes, Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Tue. Bible Study: 6:00 p.m.

BETHLEH BAPTIST CHURCH
 Darryl Caldwell, Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Bible Class: 6:30 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
 Tim Seem, Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Service: 6:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH
 Robert Davis, Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.

CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH
 Rev. Martha Baxter
 Church Service: 9:00 a.m.
 2nd & 4th Sundays
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
 Sun. Worship: 10:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 2nd & 4th Sundays

ELBA BAPTIST CHURCH
 Bernard Strickland, Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Bible Study: 6:15 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Tim Gunnels, Minister
 Bible Study: 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 11:00 a.m.
 Wed. Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD
 Ben Stallard, Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD
 Rev. David Tadlock
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Night: 7:00 p.m.

ELBA DELAVERANCE TABERNACLE
 Alvin Richards, Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.

ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 Rev. Stanley Carter
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Meeting: 6:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
 Lorell Martin, Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.

FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.

JACK ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 Ralph Melley Jr., Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 5:00 p.m.
 Wed. Prayer Service: 7:15 p.m.

KINSTON INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH
 Danny Bradshaw, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.

KINSTON INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH
 Ron & Mary Silmon, Pastors
 Saturday Service: 9:45 a.m.
 Sunday School: 11:00 a.m.
 Wed. Youth Service: 6:00 p.m.

LIBERTY CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Rev. James Hanchey, Minister
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 4:00 p.m.

LOVE'S WAY CHURCH
 Rev. Charles K. Jones, Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.
 Wed. Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.

MT. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 J. R. Parks, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Wed. Prayer Meet.: 6:00 p.m.

MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
 Fred Fowler, Pastor
 Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 Even. Service: 6:00 p.m.

NEW CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH
 Rev. J. R. Parks, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Wed. Prayer Meet.: 6:00 p.m.

NEW KEBEZA BAPTIST CHURCH
 Rev. J. R. Parks, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Wed. Prayer Meet.: 6:00 p.m.

NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
 Rev. J. R. Parks, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Wed. Prayer Meet.: 6:00 p.m.

NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
 Rev. J. R. Parks, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Wed. Prayer Meet.: 6:00 p.m.

NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
 Rev. J. R. Parks, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Wed. Prayer Meet.: 6:00 p.m.

NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
 Rev. J. R. Parks, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Wed. Prayer Meet.: 6:00 p.m.

NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
 Rev. J. R. Parks, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Wed. Prayer Meet.: 6:00 p.m.

NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
 Rev. J. R. Parks, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Wed. Prayer Meet.: 6:00 p.m.

NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
 Rev. J. R. Parks, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Wed. Prayer Meet.: 6:00 p.m.

NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
 Rev. J. R. Parks, Pastor
 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
 Sun. Worship: 11:00 a.m.
 1st & 3rd Sundays
 Wed. Prayer Meet.: 6:00 p.m.

Sponsored by
South Trust Bank & The Elba Clipper

SPORTS

Views From....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

My baby girl Melanie will turn sixteen next week and over the weekend I got in the car with her and we rode all over Coffee County trying to get her ready to take her driver's test. She has already taken driver's education at school and knows how to drive, but until she can pass Dad's test she won't be ready to get behind the wheel by herself. I will admit she did a good job and should be a good driver. However, I will also admit my nerves aren't what they used to be!

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

*** The Elba Tigers bounced back from a tough area loss on Friday night to surprise third-ranked Brantley on Saturday night and ended the week with an 11-8 record. The Tigers got a little banged up in the loss Friday to Luverne and had to face the highly-ranked Bulldogs without leading scorer Brandon Kelley, but rose to the challenge on Saturday and seemed a step quicker than the Bulldogs on both ends of the court as they posted perhaps the biggest win of the season. Elba has proven it can play with any team on its schedule and the win over Brantley should help the players realize just how good they can be when they play their best. One win doesn't make a season, but the win over the Bulldogs sure made it fun for a while.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers bounced back from last week's two losses to defeat Luverne and Brantley and moved their record to 10-7. The win over Luverne upped the Lady Tigers record to 3-2 in the area and clinched the number two seed in the upcoming area tournament, which will put Elba against New Brockton for the third time this season. The Lady Tigers didn't play four solid quarters in either of the two wins and seemed a little bored Saturday night against Brantley, but found a way to win both games and may be getting ready to peak at just the right time. The Elba girls appear to have a solid chance at making it to a sub-region contest for the first time in years if they continue to improve and work hard.

*** The county teams continued to enjoy solid seasons last week as all three boys and girls teams posted wins. New Brockton got a big cross-country win over Kinston to post its eighth win of the season, while the Lady Gamecocks also reached the eight win plateau with a win over the Lady Bulldogs. Up at Zion Chapel the Rebels moved near the double-digit mark in wins with wins over Providence and Goshen, and the Lady Rebels also got in on the fun as they defeated the Lady Eagles. Kinston posted wins over McKenzie and Pleasant Home to hang its ninth win of the season on the board, while the Lady Bulldogs claimed a win over McKenzie and seems to be getting better each and every time they hit the court. It has been a long time since the county teams have all posted a ten win season, but this may be the year all three make their mark.

*** The Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame will add a true legend in girls athletics in March when Amelia Rhoades is added to the prestigious hall of honor in Montgomery. Coach Rhoades has been a teacher/coach for 32 years at Kinston and Elba and over those years has been a driving force in moving girls athletics to the forefront. Her dedication to girls athletics at Kinston High School forced many area schools to start girls teams in volleyball, and over the years many principals across South Alabama have heard parents state "If Kinston can do it so can we!" While her win totals in volleyball, softball and basketball rank near the top among her peers, it isn't wins and losses that has made Coach Rhoades a "Hall of Fame" coach; it is her dedication to girls athletics and her refusal to allow girls athletics to take a back seat to boys sports. I wrote a letter of recommendation for Coach Rhoades and in it I wrote the Hall of Fame would be an even better source of pride to all in the state when her name joined the ranks. Congratulations Coach Rhoades, it is an honor you richly deserve.

*** In closing, one day last week I was listening to the radio in my truck and heard a radio sportscaster try to calm Auburn fans by saying they should feel honored that Texas thought enough about one of their assistants to steal him away. That is true, and Auburn does have one of the top staffs in the nation in college football. I had to laugh when the same radio sportscaster said while Alabama's staff should remain as is, an assistant was being recruited by a Tuscaloosa furniture store. Oh well....

**SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE TEAM
WITH YOUR ATTENDANCE AT
GAMES!!!!**

NOTICE

CITY PRIVILEGE LICENSES
ARE DUE

JANUARY 1, 2005

And Will Be Delinquent

FEBRUARY 1, 2005

There Will Be A Penalty Fee Plus Interest
Charged If Not Paid By Due Date!

Municipal Ordinances require that all persons engaged in any exhibition, trade, business, vocation, occupation, profession or calling or doing any action specified within the corporate limits/poll jurisdiction of **THE CITY OF ELBA** are subject to a **BUSINESS LICENSE**.

CITY OF ELBA

WAYNE GRANTHAM

CITY CLERK

Improve record to 11-8

Tigers surprise Brantley 64-52

The Elba Tigers battled Brantley Saturday night and used an aggressive offense and a cat-quick defense to surprise the County-ranked Bulldogs 64-52, in Elba.

The win upped Elba's record to 11-8, while Brantley saw its record slip to 12-4 with the loss. Brantley jumped out to an early 4-0 lead on baskets by Thad Frazier and Derrick Weeks, but the Tigers answered the early Bulldog run with a 5-0 run of their own and pulled ahead 5-4 with 4:58 remaining in the first quarter on a jumper by Mason Gulley. Reynar Rogers scored five straight Elba points in the middle of the stanza to keep the Tigers on top, and Elba moved ahead 13-10 with 2:36 left when Mason Gulley drilled a long three-pointer. Brantley pulled even at 13-13 with 2:02 remaining on a Jeffery Daniels free-throw and the two rivals swapped baskets in the closing minute as the end of one quarter the score was tied at 17-17.

A lay-up by Reynar Rogers and a Mason Gulley three-pointer gave the Tigers a 22-17 lead with 6:52 left in the second quarter, but Brantley rallied and behind the outside shooting of Kevin Pitts and the inside power of Derrick Weeks outscored the Tigers 9-0 over the next five minutes to pull out to a 26-22 lead with 1:32 still left in the quarter. Elba snapped its long scoring drought on a pair of free-throws by LaRay Williams with 1:30 left in the quarter, and Williams added a late steal and lay-up as the Tigers caught the Bulldogs and went in at the half tied 26-26.

Brantley regained the lead at 28-26 early in the third quarter on an inside basket by Derrick Weeks, but this time it was Elba's turn to stage a rally and the Tigers did just that as they



Elba's Coach Karl Bledsoe talks with his team during a time-out in the fourth quarter of last week's 64-52 win over Brantley. The win upped Elba's record to 11-8 with key games ahead against Geneva County and Enterprise. Also pictured is assistant coach Frank Phillips.

outscored Brantley 12-2 over the next three minutes to pull out to a 38-30 advantage. Shawn Abbott scored six points to spark the Elba rally, while Mason Gulley added four points and repeatedly dribbled through the Bulldogs' full-court press. Brantley's Derrick Weeks hit a free-throw with 3:13 remaining in the stanza to snap the Bulldogs' two minute scoring drought and Brantley battled back to pull within 42-37 with 1:26 left in the quarter on a basket by Devaris Skanes. However, Elba closed the quarter with a 7-0 run and heading into the final stanza the Tigers

were on top 49-37.

The Bulldogs used the inside scoring of Derrick Weeks to open the fourth quarter with a 6-1 run as Brantley cut the Elba lead to 50-43, but the Tigers' Duke Carr and LaRay Williams converted easy lay-ups against the Brantley press as Elba regained command by taking a 54-43 lead with 3:01 remaining in the game. Elba, which connected on 11 of 16 free-throws in the fourth quarter, hit seven of its final eight chances from the charity stripe to pull ahead 64-50 with 1:15 left and gave up an uncontested basket at the buzzer as the Tigers posted the big 64-

52 upset win.

Mason Gulley scored 21 points to lead Elba, while Reynar Rogers added 15 and LaRay Williams scored 11. Derrick Weeks led Brantley with 14 points, while Kevin Pitts added 13 and Thad Frazier scored 12.

E 17 9 23 15 - 64
B 17 9 11 15 - 52

Elba (64): Gulley 21, Williams 11, Rogers 16, Carr 7, Abbott 9.
Brantley (52): Pitts 13, Frazier 12, Skanes 4, Daniels 2, Weeks 14, J. Daniels 7.

Lady Tigers defeat Luverne & Brantley to up win total to ten

The Elba Lady Tigers hit the court twice last week and claimed two impressive home court wins to improve their record to 10-7 on the season.

Following are highlights of last week's action:

ELBA 52
LUVERNE 43

The Elba Lady Tigers hosted Luverne on Friday night in a key area match-up and improved their area record to 3-2 with an exciting 52-43 win.

Elba got off to a slow start and trailed 11-4 after one quarter of play, but began to heat up from the floor in the second stanza and poured in 16 points to rally and carried a 20-18 lead in at the half. The Lady Tigers continued their offensive fireworks in the third quarter as they scored 20 points to pull out to a 40-31 advantage, and then easily held on late to claim the important 52-43 area win.

LaFondra Thigpen scored 22 points and Ashleigh Waddall added 17 to lead Elba, while Brantley and Dixon led Luverne with 14 points apiece.

Elba (52): Thigpen 22, Waddall 17, Reynolds 4, Tyson 3, Lawford 6.
Luverne (43): Franklin 9, Braxton 2, Mitchell 1, Chambers 3, Dixon 14, Brantley 14.

ELBA 33
BRANTLEY 21

The Elba Lady Tigers held Brantley scoreless in the fourth quarter to rally and claim a 33-21

win over the Lady Bulldogs, Saturday night in Elba.

Brantley scored early in the opening stanza to grab a quick 2-0 lead, only to see the Lady Tigers rally behind the three-point shooting of LaFondra Thigpen and the inside scoring of Lakisha Tyson as Elba moved ahead 5-2 with 5:41 remaining in the quarter. Brantley pulled even at 5-5 on a three-pointer by Jessica Daniels with 1:42 remaining in the quarter, but the Lady Bulldogs didn't score again for over seven minutes and watched as Elba took command and opened up a 17-7 lead with 1:54 left in the half.

Brantley scored late in the second quarter to cut the Elba lead to 17-10 at the half and then opened the third quarter with a 7-0 run as the Lady Bulldogs grabbed a 19-17 lead with 4:04 remaining in the quarter. LaFondra Thigpen scored Elba's only points of the quarter on a driving lay-up with 1:46 left in the quarter to pull the Lady Tigers even at 19-19, and the Lady Tigers then outscored Brantley 14-0 in the fourth quarter to pull away and claim the 33-21 win.

LaFondra Thigpen scored 15 points and Ashleigh Waddall added 9 to lead Elba, while Jessica Daniels scored 9 points to lead Brantley.

Elba (33): Thigpen 15, Waddall 9, Reynolds 3, Tyson 4, Henderson 2.
Brantley (21): Daniels 9, Wright 5, Randall 5, Salter 2.

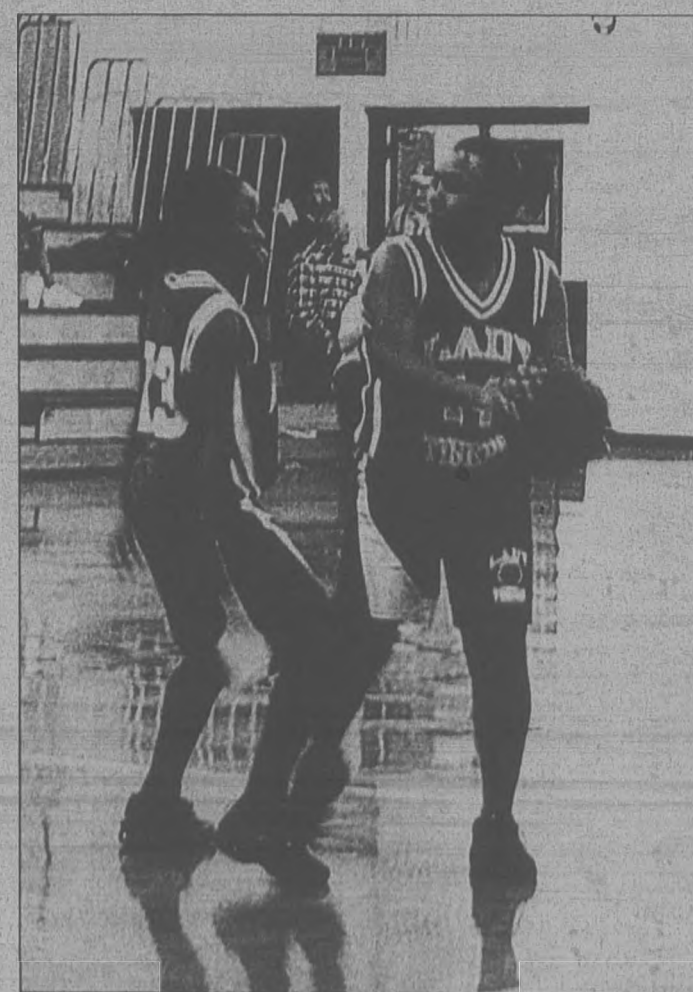
Fund raising project underway for Elba High School football team

The Elba High School football team currently is selling Dominoes Pizza cards. These 40-punch cards allow the purchaser to buy one large pizza and get another large pizza free at any Dominoes Pizza restaurant.

The objective of this project is to generate funds to buy speed shoes for the football players, and the cards will be sold through next Wednesday, Feb. 2. Anyone interested in buying a pizza card should see a football player or call Coach Scott Rials at 897-2122.

Baseball players needed for area team

Anyone ages 18 and up that wish to play baseball in the Enterprise Men's baseball league should attend a meeting on Jan. 29 at 1:00 PM at the



Elba Lady Tiger Ashley Carpenter looks to pass in last week's win over Brantley. The Lady Tigers improved their record to 10-8 last week with two big wins.

Elba Tigers fall to Luverne 69-59 in key Class 2A Area 3 match-up

The Elba Tigers hosted the Luverne Tigers Friday night in a key area contest and saw their two-game winning streak snapped as Luverne remained undefeated in area play by defeating the hometown Tigers 69-59.

The loss dropped Elba's record to 10-8, 1-4 in area play, while Luverne upped its record to 13-5, 5-0 in area action.

Elba battled seventh-ranked Luverne on even terms throughout the opening quarter and entered the second quarter tied at 18-18, but could not keep pace with its high-scoring visitors in the second quarter and watched as Luverne pulled out to a 35-19 halftime advantage.

Luverne extended its lead to 50-41 in the third quarter and turned back a late Elba rally to post the 69-59 win.

(JV GAME)

Luverne (69): Sexton 8, Kilpatrick 14, Jones 4, Lowery 4, Jackson 4.
Elba (59): Martin 5, Morris 8, Tillis 9, Butts 8, McCormick 2.

SPORTS

Kinston, Brantley and Zion Chapel all post two wins to share area prep basketball spotlight

BOYS

New Brockton sneaks past Kinston 57-51

The New Brockton Gamecocks got back in the win column last Tuesday night with a 57-51 win over the Kinston Bulldogs, in Kinston. Brett Parrish scored 18 points to lead the Gamecocks, while the Bulldogs were led by Billy Johnson with 23 points and Keith Tew with 10.

Brantley Bulldogs roll by Zion Chapel 82-55

The Brantley Bulldogs continued their winning ways last Tuesday night with an 82-55 win over the Zion Chapel Rebels. Derrick Weeks scored 25 points to lead the Bulldogs, while the Rebels were led by Austin Smith with 19 points and Abe Childs with 17.

Zion Chapel pounds Providence 46-34

The Zion Chapel Rebels led all the way Thursday night in a 46-34 win over Providence Christian. Abe Childs scored 18 points to lead the Rebels, while John Nobles led the Eagles with 11 points.

Kinston Bulldogs outscore McKenzie 72-51

The Kinston Bulldogs exploded for 27 first quarter points to take command and rolled to a 72-51 win over the McKenzie Tigers, Thursday night in Georgiana. Ramsey Phillips scored 20 points to lead the Bulldogs, while Billy Johnson added 15, Keith Tew added 14 and Josh Reeves scored 12. Rhett Lowe scored 22 points to lead McKenzie.

New Brockton falls to Luverne 77-64

The New Brockton Gamecocks traveled to Luverne Thursday night and dropped a 77-64 area decision to the Luverne Tigers. Brett Parrish scored 29 points to lead the Gamecocks, while Gary Franklin scored 23 points, grabbed 11 rebounds and handed out 11 assists to lead the Tigers.

Brantley Bulldogs coast past Arifton 72-56

The Brantley Bulldogs claimed a big road win Thursday night as they blasted the Arifton Purple Cats 72-56. Derrick Weeks scored 28 points and pulled down 16 rebounds to lead the Bulldogs, while Thad Frazier added 16 points. Jeffery Daniels added 14 and Kevin Pitts scored 11. Aaron Reeves scored 16 points to lead Arifton.

Bulldogs ease past Pleasant Home 22-21

The Kinston Bulldogs survived the slow down tactics of Pleasant Home to escape with a 22-21 win over the Eagles, Friday night in Kinston. Keith Tew scored 8 points to lead the Bulldogs, while Ramsey Phillips added 5 and made the game winning three-pointer in the closing seconds of the game. Brad Sanders led the Eagles with 8 points.

Zion Chapel Rebels run past Goshen 47-34

The Zion Chapel Rebels continued their recent winning ways Friday night by posting an impressive 47-34 win over the Goshen Eagles. Austin Smith scored 21 points to lead the Rebels, while Josh Smith added 11 points and pulled down 11 rebounds.

GIRLS

Lady Gamecocks cage Kinston 59-50

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks continued their late-season surge last Tuesday night with a 59-50 win over the Kinston Lady Gamecocks. Maressa Loman scored 24 points to lead the Lady Gamecocks, while Keshia Sanders and Ramsi Smith both scored 13 points for the Lady Bulldogs.

Brantley Lady 'Dogs nip Lady Rebels 36-32

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs had to battle for all four quarters to get past the Zion Chapel Lady Rebels 36-32, last Tuesday night. Jessica Daniels scored 18 points and Takkonda Randall added 15 to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Inessa Wambles scored 12 points to lead the Lady Rebels and Jennifer Taylor added 10.

Lady Rebels tripped up by Providence 45-40

The Zion Chapel Lady Rebels battled highly-touted Providence



New Brockton's Dadrian Johnson (44) dribbles up court in recent Gamecock action. New Brockton will travel to Zion Chapel this week for a key county battle.

(Photo by John Wallace, Andalusia Star/News)

Christian on even terms for all four quarters before falling 45-40, last Thursday night in Dothan. Inessa Wambles scored 15 points to lead the Lady Rebels, while Rebecca Dowd scored 20 points, pulled down 28 rebounds and blocked 5 shots to lead the Lady Eagles.

Kinston Lady Bulldogs roll to big 50-30 win

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs made it look easy Thursday night as they rolled past the McKenzie Lady Tigers 50-30, in Georgiana. Ramsi Smith scored 18 points and Brittany Hunko added 13 to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Crystal Davidson scored 10 points to lead the Lady Tigers.

Lady Gamecocks upset by Luverne 49-42

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks traveled to Luverne Thursday night and were upset by the Luverne Lady Tigers 49-42. Maressa Loman scored 22 points and Brittany Brantley added 11 to lead the Lady Gamecocks.

Brantley "Dogs fall to Lady 'Cats 44-33

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs fell behind early and never recovered Thursday night in a 44-33 loss to the Arifton Lady 'Cats.

Lady Rebels roll past Lady Eagles 49-37

The Zion Chapel Lady Rebels got back in the win column Friday night by rolling past the Goshen Lady Eagles 49-37. Jennifer Taylor scored 19 points and Inessa Wambles added 18 to lead the Lady Rebels, while Vanessa Russell led the Lady Eagles with 14 points.

Kinston falls to Pleasant Home 45-36

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs dropped a hard fought 45-36 decision Friday night to the Pleasant Home Lady Eagles. Casey Mack scored 12 points and Ramsi Smith added 11 to lead the Lady Bulldogs, while Amy Jacobs scored 14 points to lead the Lady Eagles.

Lady Gamecocks fall to H. Home 49-31

The New Brockton Lady Gamecocks hosted area rival Highland Home Friday night and dropped a 49-31 decision to the area leading Lady Squadron. Maressa Loman scored 20 points to lead the Lady Gamecocks, while Ladrekas Arrington led Highland Home with 23 points and Amanda Dunn added 12 points and pulled down 20 rebounds.

Action is non-stop in Elba youth basketball leagues

Following are last week's results in the Elba Youth Basketball League, sponsored by the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation:

Elba 20 Daleville 13 - The Sparks rallied in the fourth quarter to defeat the Liberty 19-12, in Girls 12 and Under action. The Sparks trailed 12-9 heading into the fourth quarter, but pulled away at 8-8 by the end of the second quarter and then pulled away to claim the win. Scoring for Elba were Waylon Craighead 8, Cole Goochy 5, Thomas Cole 4, Jake Carley 2 and Shaquille Solomon 1. Scoring for Daleville were J. Knight 5, M. Robinson 4, W. Houston 2 and T. Brooks 2.

Wizards 22 Warriors 11 - The Wizards pulled ahead early and never looked back to down the Warriors 22-11 in Boys 8 and Under action. The Wizards pulled out to an 11-7 first quarter lead and pulled away to claim the win. Scoring for the Wizards were Talon Flowers 5, Nicholas Johnson 3, Brosnan Cooks 3, Braxton Robinson 3, Devorian Wilkerson 2, Derel Cooper 1, Dontavious Williams

1, Tanner Herrington 1 and Landon Curley 1. Scoring for the Warriors were Trinton Smith 3, Gavin Caldwell 3, Avery Hanchey 2, Jamal Smith 2 and Romello Jones 1.

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Annsley Padgett, age 6, of Elba, killed her first buck (a 7 point) on January 8th, 2005. Annsley was hunting with her dad, Kyle Padgett, on her Paw Paw Hudson's land.



This eight point buck was taken by Joseph Parrish age 10. This is his first rack buck. It had 6 inch tines and a 14 inch spread. It was taken on January 16, 2005 at his favorite hunting spot.

NRCS announces continuation of ground and surface water conservation project

Through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is offering a special project called Ground and Surface Water Conservation (GSWC).

The program has been funded and is ready to be presented to qualified applicants.

According to Bob Jones, NRCS State Conservationist, "The primary purpose of the special project is to promote ground and surface water conservation by providing incentive payments to producers to carry out eligible conservation activities in order to improve irrigation systems and/or enhance irrigation efficiencies."

Eligibility is for land that has been irrigated for two of the last five years prior to application. Applications will be taken on a continuous sign-up basis. All complete applications received by March 4, 2005, will be considered for funding.

National Security Group declares quarterly dividend

The Board of Directors of The National Security Group, Inc. declared a quarterly dividend of \$.215 per share at its meeting on January 20, 2005. This represents an annual indicated dividend rate of \$.86 per share.

This cash dividend is payable on February 28, 2005 to shareholders of record February 7, 2005.

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Zion Chapel hosts Career Day for elementary students

Zion Chapel School elementary students send a big thank you to volunteers who spoke at their recent Career Day. The speakers shared the vocabulary, reading and math skills used in their professions and then encouraged the children to do their best to become respectable members of the community.

Speakers from twenty different professions were represented. They included: Jeff Amstrong, Wayne Poultry; Danny Jordan,

firefighter; Martha McKee, dental hygienist; Britley Parker, Head 2 Toe beauty salon; Dale Cobb, highway patrol; Sgt. Tommy Waters, highway patrol; Janice Bell, World Book representative; Keith Bell, Lockheed Martin; Keith Summerlin, EMT; William Walock, EMT; Sandy Pope, warrant clerk; Christ Grantham, director of canine unit; Ben Moates, Sheriff; Donnie Hussey, Hussey Moving; Pat Crosby, EMT; Amy Rugg, Sikorski Helicopters; Dennis Manning, firefighter; Charles Woodall, Badcock

Furniture; Peggy Stroud, extension agent; Jimmy Holley, state senator; Eric Wilson, etomologist/agriculture; Linda Hodge, The Elba Clipper; Carol Brand, The Enterprise Ledger; Stacey Nelson, nurse/dialysis; and Patrick Sanders, home builder, Sikorski.

The day's event received varying comments from the students. Here's what a few had to say.

Triston Howard, kindergarten student said, "I liked the helmet the chief put on me."

Jasmine Smith, kindergarten student was amazed at Mr. Jeff Amstrong's presentation. "I like the chicks because they were so. They had bellybuttons!"

Hayden Curley, first grade student said, "I liked looking at all the cool things that the State Troopers use."

Trena Bozeman, second grade, said, "I like it when Rocky (the dog) came in. He sniffed us and looked for drugs."

Kristen Parker added, "I can not believe that a dog can be a policeman!"

Ethan Deal, second grade, was amazed to learn from Donnie Hussey about house moving that "only six little hooks hold the house down."

Dillon, third grade, said, "My favorite thing from career day was the ambulance, because if we are in danger, they could help."

Tyler, third grade, said, "My favorite speaker was the fire fighter. Mr. Dennis is almost a hero."

Clint, third grade, said, "Miss Rugg is my favorite because she brought a helicopter and let us pass it around."

Cody Kelley, fourth grade student, said, "The best part of career day was Mr. Jimmy Holley talking about the different branches of government."

Ryan Allen, added, "Mr. Holley taught me that it takes more than

voting to make a bill become a law."

Audrey Deal commented, "I learned that a reporter writes about two types of news, hard and soft news."

Charles Little said her favorite part of Career Day was "finding out how the newspapers printed the pages and who typed all those words."

Myah Peterson, fourth grade, said, "I learned that Mr. Eric Wilson helps Alabama from getting bugs that carry diseases."

Stephanie Williams added, "He has his own bee hive!"

Steven Little, fourth grade, said, "I did not know that you had to use math in printing a newspaper."

Cassandra Nelson, fifth grade said, "I liked the way Mrs. Stacy Nelson taught us how kidneys can die."

Courtney Napper added that she learned that "dialysis is when you have to have your dirty blood cleaned."

Josh Baldwin, fifth grade student said, "I liked it when Mr. Keith Bell showed us all of the missiles and the movies about them."

Ryan Berry, fifth grade said, "The BEST thing about career day was the photographer!"

Melisa Stobinski shared the goal of the day when she stated, "I have learned that you use math and reading in every job you do."

Julia Harrell, fifth grade student summarized the activity by saying, "The best thing that I liked yesterday or learned is that you could do anything if you just put your mind to it."

Timothy Reeves, fourth grade, showed his enthusiasm for the activities saying, "Yesterday was the best day ever!"

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Elba Chamber of Commerce presents... January's Business of the Month Elba Florist and Gifts

Elba Florist and Gifts opened on Feb. 12, 1954, and for the past 51 years, Bill Daughtry and staff have been in business in downtown Elba.

The shop's first location was on Simmons Street near Claxton Avenue; however, the storefront proved to be too small within two weeks. A move to Factory Avenue provided more space and a home on the square for the next 14 years.

Since 1968, Elba Florist has been at its current location on Simmons Street.

Mr. Daughtry was joined in the shop by his wife, Carolyn, when she retired from teaching in 1993. Betty Merle Boutwell has been on staff for several years, and in 2003, Marty Hurrelson, AIFD, came on board with the Daughtrys.

The staff of Elba Florist and Gifts always looks forward to serving the needs of the local community and invites everyone to stop by the shop whenever they need a floral or gift idea.



Bill Daughtry (seated) opened Elba Florist and Gifts in 1954. The floral shop has always been located in downtown Elba and has been at its current location on Simmons Street (on the square) since 1968. Bill is pictured above with his wife, Carolyn, and Marty Hurrelson, AIFD. Also pictured is the Daughtry's dog, Angel.

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**Lordy,
Lordy,
Look Who's
40!**

CCC

(Continued from Page One)

heads and make decisions without the approval of the commission?" he asked.

Dalrymple said he had made no decision. Instead, he said, as commission chairman, he has the authority to sign checks, and while looking at the employee time sheets, he noticed not every employee was working eight hours per day. He said he brought this to the attention of the department heads and was now bringing it before the commission in search of a solution.

Dalrymple again stated that he feels the employees should work eight hours per day.

"I like to see a happy workforce," Brooks said. "I think you interrupt that when you go over the department heads."

Dalrymple said as long as the policy remains 40 hours per week payable every two weeks, he feels he has the authority to bring the matter to attention if the hours are not being worked.

Brooks offered a motion to table the issue to allow attorney Cassidy more time to review the matter; however, his motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Tom Grimsley said he had spoken with Revenue Commissioner Ronnie Burns, and Burns indicated he has no problem working his employees from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Grimsley then offered a motion to establish work hours

Free MIG welding course offered

At the request of Utility Trailer Company in Enterprise, Lurleen B. Wallace Community College, Enterprise-Ozark Community College, and Enterprise City Schools have partnered to provide a 14-week MIG Welding Course to interested individuals who are 18 years of age or older.

Classes will be held at Enterprise High School on Monday and Tuesday nights from 3:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

and is FREE to the public. Classes are scheduled to begin Monday, February 7th.

To register for the course, interested persons should contact Anita Fulford at the Enterprise Career Link Office at (334) 393-3783 to schedule an interview.

Register now! Jobs are currently available for applicants who can demonstrate the skills needed to perform the MIG welding process.

for all county administrative and courthouse offices to be from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. to accomplish a 40-hour work week. He received a second from Commissioner Linda Westbrook, and the motion passed with a 4-1 vote. Brooks cast the lone opposing vote. Commissioner Robert Stephens was unable to attend the meeting.

Commissioners unanimously voted Monday morning to vacate County Road 653. Prior to this vote, a public hearing was held; however, no one asked to speak.

County engineer Randy Tindell said the county will now have to publish a notice in the newspaper indicating the road has been vacated by the county. After that, he said the county will pull its signs from the road.

In other business, commissioners:
* Approved a concrete bid by awarding to Russell Concrete Co. of Elba. Using the three percent local business advantage, Russell provided the low bid.
* Approved the preliminary plat for Phase II of Hunter Ridge subdivision.

BOE

(Continued from Page One)

will reward students with perfect attendance, no late arrivals and no early checkouts, with an excused day from school. It will also apply to students with all A's and one absence for the nine weeks. A letter from interim principal Lakesha Brackins outlined the proposal to board members.

David Collins was named head softball coach, moving up from assistant coach. Amelia Rhoades was named Attendance Officer and Professional Development Coordinator. She will continue to teach three classes a day. State department rules require the system have an Attendance Officer, according to Weeks.

The superintendent updated

* Approved a resolution accepting the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for the county.

* Approved an agreement authorizing the secretary of state to act as the county's agent with the board of registrars in ordering various supplies for mailing voter information.

* Approved a motion, at the request of Ted Martin of the Tri-County Fire Department, to allow the county engineer's department to prepare a pad for the construction of a new fire department building on County Road 708 in the Cool Springs community. The is pending the department receives approval on a grant it applied for to construct the building. Commissioner Brooks abstained from the vote.

* Approved a request from Refuge Pentecostal Church to waive the rent fee of the farm center for an upcoming youth conference.

The next meeting for the Coffee County Commission will be Monday, Feb. 14, at 9 a.m. in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

board members on the system's compliance with their Corrective Action Plan, the Technology Plan and the parking lot paving project.

Upcoming Meeting:

The Southeast Alabama Beekeepers Association will hold its monthly meeting on the 10th of Feb. 2005 at the Coffee County Farm Center. For more information please call Elizabeth Whitaker at 334-894-2077 or Charles Jester at 334-308-2724.

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